

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, AG, XF, LY

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT

REF: ABU DHABI 2162

1. REFTEL INQUIRED WHETHER IT WAS PERMISSIBLE TO USE
PHRASE QUOTE THE UAE PARTICIPATES IN THE ARAB BOYCOTT OF
ISRAEL UNQUOTE IN PREPARING PUBLICATION ON QUOTE HOW TO DO
BUSINESS IN ABU DHABI UNQUOTE. STATEMENT HAS NEED-
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LESSLY ABSOLUTE CONNOTATION WHICH COULD POSSIBLY CAUSE

POLICY PROBLEMS. REQUEST EMBASSY'S VIEW ON LIKELY EFFECT OF USING INSTEAD LANGUAGE PARA 2-4 BELOW WHICH COMMERCE INCLUDES IN ITS PUBLICATIONS ON MARKETING IN ARAB COUNTRIES.

2. QUOTE THE UAE PARTICIPATES IN THE ARAB LEAGUE ECONOMIC BOYCOTT AGAINST ISRAEL. NOT ONLY DOES THE UAE PROHIBIT DIRECT TRADE WITH ISRAEL, BUT IT ALSO SUBSCRIBES TO THE SECONDARY BOYCOTT AGAINST THIRD-COUNTRY FIRMS FOUND TO

HAVE CERTAIN ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH ISRAEL (E.G., INVESTMENTS, JOINT VENTURES, ASSEMBLY PLANTS, LICENSING AGREEMENTS). IN GENERAL, ROUTINE TRADE WITH ISRAEL IN CIVILIAN GOODS IS UNAFFECTED BY THE BOYCOTT AND MANY U.S. FIRMS SUCCESSFULLY SELL TO BOTH ISRAEL AND THE UAE.

3. IT IS THE POLICY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO OPPOSE RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES OR BOYCOTTS FOSTERED OR IMPOSED BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES. U.S. FIRMS ARE ENCOURAGED AND REQUESTED TO REFUSE TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH SUPPORTS SUCH RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES OR BOYCOTTS. U.S. EXPORTERS AND RELATED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, BANKS, SHIPPING COMPANIES, FREIGHT FORWARDERS, INSURERS) ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT (FORM DIB 621) TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ANY REQUEST FOR ACTION IN SUPPORT OF SUCH RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES OF BOYCOTTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 369 OF THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS.

4. THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SEEKS TO MINIMIZE THE ADVERSE IMPACT ON U.S. TRADE OF FOREIGN BOYCOTTS AND OTHER RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES BY FURNISHING INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE TO U.S. FIRMS DIRECTLY AFFECTED. IN ADDITION TO REPORTING SUCH REQUESTS, AS NOTED ABOVE, FIRMS CONFRONTED WITH BOYCOTT PROBLEMS MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THEM WITH THE COMMERCE ACTION GROUP FOR THE NEAR EAST, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, WASHINGTON, DC 20230, OR NEA REGIONAL AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, DC 20520.

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5. IF YOU HAVE ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE, WE SHALL CONSIDER IT. COMMENTS BY INFO ADDRESSEES INVITED. ROBINSON

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